

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated March 29, 2006. In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that claims 1-12 were subject to restriction or election requirement. In so doing, the Examiner stated:

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

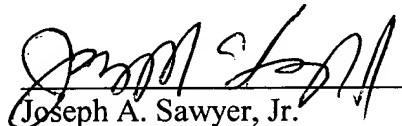
- I. Claims 1-3 are, drawn to method of providing a protecting coat on keys, classified in class 29, subclass 610.
- II. Claims 4-12 are, drawn to method and product claims for laying a water-permeable top sheet over the keys, classified in class 200, subclass 5A.

Applicants hereby elect Group II (claims 4-12) without prejudice.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants' attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP

May 1, 2006
Date


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